

# SJU MLK 2016 Teach-In Schedule

## (All taking place in Quad 170, Founders Room)

8:00am – 8:50am

- **Kathy Lilla Cox, Associate Professor of Theology**

**Shaped by Faith: Martin Luther King Jr and the Civil Rights Movement**

**SJU – Quad 170, Founders Room**

This presentation will provide an introduction to Martin Luther King Jr.'s use of theological and biblical themes in his writings and speeches. His infamous "Letter from a Birmingham Jail" and the letter from the Clergymen to whom it was addressed, as well as clips from other speeches will be examined to illuminate the theological themes and sources utilized by King to simultaneously galvanize and critique the Christian churches in the fight for civil rights.

9:10am – 10:00am

- **Theodor Gordon, Visiting Assistant Professor in the Sociology Department and First Year Seminar**

**"Our Nation Was Born in Genocide": MLK and American Indian Civil Rights**

**SJU – Quad 170, Founders Room**

In 1963 Martin Luther King Jr wrote, "Our Nation was Born in Genocide when it embraced the notion that the original American, the Indian, was an inferior race". This MLK Teach-In presentation will examine how the African American and the American Indian civil rights movements influenced each other. While American Indian activists strive for increased political-economic independence, African American activists press for greater political-economic integration. Despite these differences, both movements formed important connections. This talk will explore these connections and their implications for the futures of both movements.

10:20am – 11:10am

- **John Friend, Assistant Professor of Political Science**

**Race in American Foreign Policy: Insights from MLK's "Beyond Vietnam" Speech**

**SJU – Quad 170, Founders Room**

On April 4, 1967, the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. delivered a widely publicized speech against the U.S. war in Vietnam. In this speech, King famously established a link between the civil rights and antiwar movements. For King, the war in Vietnam was an extension of the racism and violence that plagued American society.

Drawing from King's understanding of the relationship between the African American experience and Vietnam's historic struggle for independence, this teach-in will explore the role "race" plays in American Foreign policy in particular and international relations in general. From the Vietnam War to the 2003 invasion of Iraq, American foreign policy has, to its detriment, ignored history and relied on a false sense of superiority. While King suggested that U.S. policymakers were blinded by "anti-communism" during the Vietnam War, others, today, have taken a similar perspective when pointing out the "civilizing mission" of American involvement in Iraq.

**11:30am – 12:20pm**

- **Kelly Kraemer, Associate Professor of Peace Studies**

**Gun Violence, Police Violence, and Terror Attacks: What Would MLK Do?**

**SJU – Quad 170, Founders Room**

My presentation will focus on what we can learn from Dr. King about how to respond to the contemporary problems of mass shootings, police killings, and terror attacks in the United States.

**12:40pm – 1:30pm**

- **Jeffrey Anderson, Associate Professor of Peace Studies**

**The Future of Race in America**

**SJU – Quad 170, Founders Room**

Join me in watching Michelle Alexander's TED Talk "The Future of Race in America," which argues that a policy of mass incarceration has created a Jim Crow-like situation of social control. Following the 24-minute Ted Talk, a discussion of her argument and the identification of possible action steps will be jointly taken up.

**1:50pm – 2:40pm**

- **Ellen Block, Assistant Professor of Anthropology in the Sociology Department**

**Anthropology of Race**

**SJU – Quad 170, Founders Room**

Race does not have a biological basis. Instead, race is a social category, and one that leads to important differences and inequalities across the globe. This session will explore this statement, and look at anthropologists' views on race.

**3:00pm – 3:50pm**

- **Kyhl Lyndgaard, Director of Writing Center and First Year Seminar**

**Sarah Winnemucca Goes to Washington: Diversity in the National Statuary Hall**

**SJU – Quad 170, Founders Room**

How we memorialize our past gives meaning to the present. In 1864, President Lincoln authorized the creation of a National Statuary Hall, with each state represented by two statues. The 99th statue depicts Nevada's Paiute writer and activist Sarah Winnemucca (c. 1844-1891). One of eight women and five Native Americans, Winnemucca's own rhetorical strategies are seen in the active and fluid depiction of the statue, which stands out as one of the most distinctive and beautiful in the Capitol. My presentation covers Winnemucca's work, including her lobbying in Washington and the first-ever Native American autobiography, as well as the efforts that resulted in the memorial statue 116 years after her death.